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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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1876. **C** 1876.

THE

Pittsburgh Commercial

FOR THE

CENTENNIAL YEAR.

First Century of the Republic.

The year **1876** marks an important epoch in American history, completing as it does the

Events of more than ordinary moment are to be looked for, and it will be the aim of the Editorial Corps to keep it well informed thereof. To accomplish this it is only necessary to take and read a

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REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C., December 6, 1875.

SIR: In obedience to law, the Secretary of the Treasury respectfully submits to Congress the following report on the subject of finance, embracing estimates of receipts and expenditures, and plans of revenue:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1875.

RECEIPTS.

The moneys received and covered into the treasury by warrants during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, were as follows:

From customs	$184,020,771 41
From internal revenue	110,007,764 69
From sales of public lands	2,588,089 66
From tax on national bank circulation, deposits, and reserve	6,274,518
From repayments of interest by Pacific railroad companies	808,960 87
From sinking fund for Pacific railroads	1,033,000
From customs fines, penalties, and forfeitures	61,739 44
From fees—consular, letters patent, and passports	271,287 50
From fees—patent-office	1,029,466 00
From taxes on circulation, deposits, and reserve of national banks	3,979,279 69
From repayments to the District of Columbia	1,000,000
From miscellaneous sources	1,284,020 77
Total net receipts, exclusive of premium on bonds sold	$313,379,697 00
Premium on sales of coin	3,079,279 69
Total net receipts, exclusive of premium	$288,000,051 10
Balance in Treasury June 30, 1874, including deposits of coin and United States currency held for and certificates outstanding	150,731,694 63
Total available cash	$438,731,745 73

EXPENDITURES.

Net expenditures by warrants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875	$274,823,392 84
Redemption of public debt	13,465,396 48
Total net disbursements	$288,029,229 32
Balance in Treasury, June 30, 1875	144,702,416 41
Total	$438,731,745 73

This statement shows that the net revenues for the fiscal year were $288,000,051 10
And the ordinary expenses (including the award to British claimants, $1,929,819) 274,623,392 84

Leaving a surplus revenue, exclusive of provision for the sinking fund of $ 13,376,658 26

By reference to the last annual report, page VI, it will be observed that the estimate then made was that the revenues for this fiscal year would be the sum of $288,315,283 90, and that the expenditures would amount to $275,353,489 42.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1876.

Net receipts for first quarter from all ordinary sources	$ 81,186,145 14
Balance in Treasury June 30, 1875	144,702,416 41
Total available	$225,888,561 55
Ordinary expenditures during the same period	84,047,843 76
Redemption of public debt	6,588,989 66
Balance in treasury Sept. 30, 1875	134,972,018 13
Total	$225,888,561 55
For the remaining three quarters it is estimated that the receipts from all ordinary sources will be	216,300,000 00
Estimated expenditures for same period	184,400,000 00

From the foregoing statement of actual receipts and expenditures for the first quarter of the current fiscal year, and the estimates of the same for the remaining three quarters, based upon appropriations already made, and also on the assumption that Congress will not increase the present rate of taxation nor make other appropriations, it will be seen that, in the judgment of the Department, the revenues will exceed the expenditures $12,426,145 14, and that the ordinary expenditures will amount to $276,747,346 24. This would leave a surplus revenue of $2,008,091 38. Under existing laws it is estimated that $32,269,692 32 will be required to be covered into the sinking fund for this year. If the statement, as here submitted, shall prove to be approximately correct, the revenues will fall short by the amount of $3,226,600 94 of providing for the appropriations made by Congress.

ESTIMATES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1877.

It is estimated that the receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, will be, from all ordinary sources.....$301,000,000 00

Estimated ordinary expenditures for the same period, on public debt, and on account of fund account and principal of public debt.....302,375,000 00

It appears that for this fiscal year the surplus revenues of the Government will amount to $24,795,000, the amount to be provided for the sinking fund is $31,093,-377 40. There is reason to hope, therefore, that the Government for the present year will not only provide for all its obligations, including the sinking fund.

The estimates of expenditures depart as little as may be from the requirements established for the fiscal year, including postal service, miscellaneous appropriations, and annual appropriations required for sinking fund, at.....$314,912,908 48

REDUCTION OF PUBLIC DEBT.

By the annexed statement of the public debt, issued June 30, 1875, the reduction of the debt during the year was shown to be $14,326,-

Principal of debt July 1, 1874	$2,251,690,468 43
Interest due and unpaid	1,845,000
Interest due and accrued to date	38,929,087 47
Total debt	$2,290,629,555 90
Cash in treasury	147,341,314 74
Debt less cash in treasury	$2,143,088,241 16
Principal of debt July 1, 1875	$2,232,274,531 95
Interest due and unpaid	1,845,000
Interest accrued to date	36,847,556 19
Total debt	$2,270,932,088 14
Cash in treasury	142,243,361 82
Debt less cash in treasury	$2,128,688,726 32

Showing a reduction as above stated of.....$14,399,514 84

It will be observed that the surplus revenues, exclusive of provision for the sinking fund, as shown in the statement of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1875, are $1,022,356 58 less than the amount of the reduction of the debt as shown by the monthly statement of the same.

The difference between these two statements arises from the difference of dates at which they are made up, as will be seen by a comparison of them as regards the cash in the treasury at the commencement and close of the fiscal year, and of the item of "interest due and unpaid, and accrued interest to date," which, in the monthly debt statement, is treated as a liability of the Government, precisely as is the principal of the debt, but which is not so considered in the statement of receipts and expenditures.

The cash in the Treasury July 1, 1874, as shown by the monthly debt statement of that date, and which exceeded only by a few thousands its cash in the Treasury at the time of its issue, was.....$147,341,314 74

The cash in the Treasury July 1, 1875, as shown by the statement of receipts and expenditures (the books from which it is prepared usually being kept open for a short period of forty-five days, so as to include all the dates of the month and the account all the revenues deposited at the different places of collection), although the country within the period covered by the statement, was at the time of the issue of the monthly statement), was.. 150,731,694 63

Showing a difference of.....$ 3,390,379 89

The cash in the Treasury July 1, 1875, as shown by the monthly debt statement of that date, was $142,243,361 82
And as shown by the statement of the receipts and expenditures for the same date.....144,702,416 41

Showing a difference of.....$ 2,459,054 59

The difference in these two statements of cash reported to the Treasurer, as appears by the monthly statement, and as ascertained by the statement of receipts and expenditures at the commencement and close of the fiscal year, it will be seen, is

To which add the reduction in the principal of "interest due and unpaid, and accrued interest to date"	$731,325 30
	291,331 28
Making the sum of	$ 1,022,656 58

It will, therefore, be perceived that no difference exists in these two accounts, other than that which grows out of the manner of their preparation.

Frugality in administration is among the foremost and most important means of a sound financial policy. Faithful collection of the revenue and reduction of expenditures to the lowest point demanded by the best experience of government, constitute the first duty of those intrusted therewith. Nor is this all embracing the law. The obligation to adhere strictly to this duty has peculiar force while the public debt exists, and while the burdens of the people are suffering from financial depression. Every dollar of money collected from the people beyond the amount of economical and honest expenditures for the fiscal year, including the sinking fund, subjects them to unnecessary and illegitimate burdens. The general deprivation of business which has followed the panic of 1873 has increased the difficulty of collection and extravagance, through which we have just passed, has made it necessary that individuals, associations, and corporations should reduce their expenditures to the minimum: and, having done so, the taxpayers have a right to demand that the Government do likewise. While the interest on the public debt and other national obligations, should be promptly met, there are many points at which it is believed that considerable reductions can be made in the present rate of taxation

...tinually in demanded by local communities in which they live, respectively situated, and necessarily delays the beginning of some. The suggestion of the Supervising Architect, touching the desirability and expediency of causing plans for public buildings to be prepared by architects whose whole time is not required to be given to supervision of those already in progress of construction, merits the attention and consideration of Congress.

It is...rable that all buildings constructed for public use should be of the most durable material, and conveniently adapted to the purposes for which they are designed. This can be best accomplished by bringing into requisition ...competitive means, the best architectural talent of the country.

It is, therefore, recommended that Congress make provision for carrying into effect the suggestion indicated by the Supervising Architect in this regard.

The Secretary repeats the suggestion of his last report, that the present is not a favorable time for asking large appropriations for public buildings.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.

The state of the law relating to the examination and payment of certain classes of claims against the Government should receive the attention of Congress.

The Third Auditor and Second Comptroller, accounting officers of the Treasury Department, are required by law to adjudicate and settle claims upon the United States for the value of property lost or destroyed while in possession of the Government, either by contract or impressment, and claims for stores received or taken and used by the army. This power conferred upon these officers is an anomalous one. Before the year 1816 claims of this nature were presented directly to Congress, and, when found to be just and reasonable, were allowed by a special legislation. By the act approved April 8, 1816, provisions was made for payment to owners of property lost or destroyed in the war between the United States and Great Britain. Pursuant to that act, a commissioner was appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, whose duty it was to decide all cases arising under the act, and upon his adjudication the amount found due the claimant was paid out of the Treasury. By an amendatory act, passed the next year, the commissioner was required to report the facts in each case to Congress, to the end that provision might be made for the payment of the claimant, and all cases in which the amount allowed exceeded one hundred dollars were required to be revised by the Secretary of War, and confirmed by him before payment.

By the act approved April 9, 1818, all claims under the act of 1816 and its amendment not acted on by the Commissioner were transferred to the Third Auditor, to be by him adjudicated, was to be governed by the rules prescribed for the Commissioner. Again, in 1832 it was enacted that the accounting officer of the Treasury Department should audit and settle, without limitation, claims of officers, volunteers and other persons in the campaign against the Seminole Indians, under rules to be prescribed by the President. When, however, in 1853, Congress passed a similar act for the settlement of claims for property lost in expeditions against the Indians on the frontier of Illinois and Michigan, the Third Auditor of the Treasury was required to examine, allow and pay them, whatever the amount, a similar duty was required to be allowed and paid under the acts of 1816 and 1817.

But again, by the act of June 26, 1834, if a claim of this character exceed two hundred dollars, instead of deciding the same, the Third Auditor was required to report the whole proof to Congress. By the subsequent acts of January 18, 1837, March 2, 1847, and March 3, 1849, all of which remain in force, amendatory to the act of 1816 and its amendment, in relation to property lost or destroyed in the military service of the United States, the Third Auditor is required to decide and pay, without revision, under rules prescribed by the Secretary of War, with the assent of the President of the United States, whose decision, by an amendment to the act of 1849, made July 29, 1866, the Third Auditor is required to transmit his adjustment to the Second Comptroller for his decision.

By the act of July 4, 1864, as amended by the acts of February 21, 1867, December 23, 1868, and March 3, 1871, and section 306 appendix to revised statutes, the jurisdiction of the Court of Claims was extended so as to include claims against the United States growing out of the destruction or appropriation of, or damage to property by the army or navy engaged in the suppression of the rebellion, but claims of loyal citizens in States not in rebellion for quarters, forage, stores and subsistence received or taken for the use of the army are to be reported to the Auditor by the Quartermaster General or Commissary General, with a recommendation for settlement.

While the jurisdiction thus established adapted to the settlement of these claims, it is not easy to perceive the reasons which induced Congress to depart from that fixed established rule of the law of 1816. But, whatever may have been the reason, experience has shown that the accounting officers of the Treasury are not the proper persons to have the duty of passing upon such claims. Almost every case that is presented is, in reality, an investigation which properly belongs to a court of law. In practice, the investigation is often not made either by the Third Auditor or Second Comptroller, but is necessarily intrusted to subordinates examined to consider and weigh evidence. Thus great injustice is done the Government by the allowance of claims improperly supported, which, in a court of law, would not be admissible in a court of law or gainst for the security of the Government.

The act of March 30, 1868, reproduced in section 191, Revised Statutes, makes it at least doubtful whether the Secretary of the Treasury has power to prevent this evil, unless he should take upon himself the questionable responsibility of refusing to issue warrants for the payment of adjudicated claims.

Claims against the Government have been permitted to sleep until the officers connected with the transactions out of which they arose have died, and the evidence to establish them been revived and supported by *ex parte* testimony of such character as to cause their allowance by the accounting officers.

As a partial remedy for the evil, it is recommended that all such claims hereafter first be presented within a specified time. There is, practically, no limitation now. It will be seen that the act of 1871 requires claims not presented within two years. Perhaps this period should be shorter. Six years is adopted in the legislation of most of the States as the time in which actions on simple contracts are barred. The same limitation in Governments will not be valid for a longer time than this, and there are strong reasons for requiring claims to be presented in a shorter time. But a better and more effectual remedy for the evil would be the appointment of a new requiring all such claims to be presented in the United States circuit courts of the districts where the claims originated. Proceedings in the nature of suits against the United States, under such limitations and restrictions, both as to the right to institute the suit and as to the mode of procedure, as Congress may see proper to impose.

It may be said that such a course would be at variance with the idea that the sovereign should not be subject to be sued in the United States, as a sovereign power, however, has practically subjected itself to suit by the legislation already made as well as by the establishment of the Court of Claims. The theory of exemption from suit has been long since abandoned in England, where the allowance of the petition of right in any one of the superior courts of common law or equity is of course. Besides, no just government can now afford to withhold from its citizens the right to present their claims against it, and to enforce the demands upon it in some form or other; and it is for the interest both of the Government and the honest claimant that the claim should be passed upon by a competent tribunal, with all the machinery for obtaining the truth and prevent fraud. The advantage to the Government of such a course is manifest. Claims, instead of being supported by partial and *ex parte* testimony, would be subjected to thorough examination by a court and jury, in which the interests of the Government would be protected by its attorneys.

The highest test of the credibility of a witness exists in cross-examination by opposing counsel in the presence of the tribunal which is to weigh the evidence.

Experience has shown that, as a rule, no claim subjected to the scrutiny of a court in the vicinity where it arises will be found to be sustained if it is unfounded in fact, while, on the contrary, such claims, when prosecuted mainly through the Department without attracting the attention of those who either know them to be fabricated or have the means of proving them to be so, and not until they are made public after payment, is the evidence of their fraudulent character elicited. It is also happened that claims have been passed by the accounting officers, on which no evidence could be obtained to be fraudulent and fictitious, and the Government has felt called upon to proceed by civil action to recover back the money, and to institute criminal prosecutions against parties engaged in the fraud.

In England, by an act passed in 1860, to amend the petition of right against the Government, which was found to be inadequate, liable, the course of procedure in the trial of suits between subject and subject should be extended thereto.

Trial is the vicinage is no less important to the Government than to the honest claimant. Requiring a citizen from a distant part of the Union to come to the seat of Government and bring his proofs with him to try his claim against the Government, often operates oppressively on him, and is without corresponding benefit to the Government. It is difficult to perceive why such a case should not be tried in the vicinity where it arises, and where, as has been before said, if tried with the benefit of a searching jury trial, with the witnesses present to undergo cross-examination, the establishment of false and fraudulent claims would be very rarely rendered more difficult. The Government would be relieved at an early day from the burdensomeness of the place of trial from the departments where the public records are kept, for the statute already makes certified copies of such records competent evidence, and they could as well be sent to distant parts of the country as to the court sitting in Washington city. In rare and exceptional cases, the production of original papers would be necessary, but these could be sent in charge of a proper custodian.

REPORTS OF BUREAU OFFICERS.

The reports of the heads or bureaus are herewith transmitted, and referred to as containing statements and information touching the business of the Department more in detail than could properly be embodied in this report. The Secretary gratefully acknowledges his indebtedness to the officers of the Department generally for the intelligence with which they have discharged their duties.

B. H. BRISTOW,
Secretary of the Treasury.

To the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MAD ITCH.

Appearance of a Rare Cattle Disease in This State.

The Greencastle (Pa.) *Echo* contains the following: About ten days since a valuable cow belong to Mr. David L. Martin, of Middleburg, was taken sick and acted in such a curious manner as to attract the attention of himself and neighbors. On examination it was discovered that the one side of her lower jaw was bared of hair for about two inches, evidently by the constant friction from rubbing on the fence, and that her neck was very much swollen. The cow acted as if crazy, and continued rubbing her jaw on the fence for several hours, when she suddenly died. Mr. Martin at once proceeded to haul her carcass to the woods, and was followed by his watch dog, who commenced eating of the dead body, and shortly after returned home the dog was taken with the disease, acted in the same manner as the cow, and died in a few hours. Mr. Martin became alarmed and called in a veterinary surgeon to examine the dead bodies, who pronounced the disease "mad itch," which is fatal to all animals that partake of it. It is very rare in the United States, and these are the first cases that have every occurred in this part of the country, and we hope the disease will end with the defunct animals.

This somewhat fishy story comes to us through the Wichita (Kansas) *Beacon*, which says that Andreas Eisinger, a Swiss, and late of the Sixth United States Cavalry, stationed in Wichita, found in a late expedition against the Cheyennes that the language of the Cheyenne captives was quite intelligible to him. It was closely allied to, though not perfectly identical with, the local dialect of his native canton, Thurgau, which is called Pomelus by the Germans, and Bonapa-va Indian by ours. It is supposed to be the ancient Roman, or a corruption of it. Eisinger's discovery was thought to be of such practical benefit that he has been discharged from the ranks and promoted to the office of interpreter, so much for the *Beacon's* story. As for the language which Eisinger speaks, if it is "ancient Roman," it must be Latin or something very like it. As to the other alleged facts, they may be pronounced [illegible]

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1875.

THE Greensburg *Argus* announces that Auditor General TEMPLE, of this State, "is now spoken of among the probable candidates for the Democratic nomination for President."

THE foreign import trade of Philadelphia last month amounted to $1,276,908, of which $681,895 was in foreign vessels, and $595,673 in American. The indirect trade via New York was only $36,911.

THE Union soldiers of the country will not fail to stow away in their minds a recollection of the fact that the Democratic House of Representatives, by a strict party vote, 169 to 106, refused to pass a resolution in favor of the employment of Union soldiers in subordinate positions in the gift of the House. The only soldiers who can get office from this House are those who fought on the rebel side.

THE export movement in grain at Philadelphia last week amounted to 179,009 bushels. The total exports thus far during the year aggregate 7,213,286 bushels, and the whole amount, the *Bulletin* thinks, will reach eight millions. This is the largest export of breadstuffs ever made from that port in a single year, and the increase has been made at the expense of New York, whose exports have correspondingly diminished.

THE local taxation of New York city, this year, amounts to $24,300,430, against $6,685,148 in 1869, an increase of $18,214,982. The present population is 1,100,000, against 805,651 in 1860. While, therefore, the increase in population during that period has been at the rate of thirty-six per cent., the increase of taxation has been three hundred per cent. These figures are taken from the New York *Bulletin*, which asks "how long is trade to be depressed by these enormous burdens?" The reply is obvious: Until the overthrow of the corrupt and thieving Democracy.

THE statistics of the commerce of New York for November, just published, show a continued decline in imports, the total being $22,100,311, against $24,256,272 for the corresponding month last year, while the total since the first of January is the smallest for a number of years. The exports for the month show a slight rally in produce from the total of last year, but are five millions below the corresponding month in 1873. The total shipments of specie and joint resolutions of the two Houses, and been duly recognized by all departments of the Government as the legal ecquivant of the Vice President's place.

THE TARIFF.

The free traders of the East, including the importers of foreign goods, who furnish the money needed for the purpose, have determined upon making a strong effort to reduce the tariff at this session of Congress. They have, or they think they have, the House with them, and they will proceed, at the earliest possible day, to arrange the tariff in such a way as to revive and increase the importations of foreign goods. That such legislation would tend, directly, to the complete prostration of our national industries is self-evident, but it is proposed; and we advise the laboring men of the country to watch closely and note by whose hands they are stricken down. A special dispatch to the Philadelphia *Press* says:

The probability that Speaker Kerr will appoint an anti-protection committee on ways and means has excited no little enthusiasm among the free traders, and already I perceive symptoms of the approach of a lively contest on the subject of protection and free trade. A prominent protectionist, in speaking to this question, remarked to me that the bearing of the question was not simply one of duty, but would affect every important interest of the country; that finance was a question of labor, and the question of labor was one of protection; that the people and their industries in every part of the land were called upon to pay the protection the high tariff in France after the Franco-Prussian war, amounting almost to prohibition, set every industry into action, that it established to pay the enormous indemnity levied upon her by Germany, and that now her people are prosperous and happy while the industries and people of Germany are idle. He said that the cypher of France is undermining the arms of Germany. To open this question in the House would give rise to one of the most determined contests ever known there, especially as the Republicans are in the minority and will very probably seize the opportunity to demonstrate how little they know on the subject.

IT IS intimated that should Spain refuse to make the concessions embodied in the ultimatum recently presented by the United States Minister to that country, the result will be war. Our advice in this matter is, to go slow. No urgent need exists at present for hasty action, either on the part of Congress or the President; whilst a war with Spain, or any other power, during our centennial year, is to be deprecated beyond anything except the loss of national honor. Moreover, it may be assumed as certain that if the United States should intervene by force of arms between Spain and her Cuban colonists, the natural result would be the exercise of such an authority over civil matters within the island as would logically compel this country to incorporate Cuba as a portion of the national domain, or else making it either a State or Territory of the Federal Union. In the event of annexation the necessity would at once arise for the expenditure of vast sums in order to fortify the island to such an extent as to render it secure in case of war between this Government and any one of the great military and maritime powers; for it needs no argument to prove that Cuba would thenceforward become the most vulnerable point at which any hostile nation could strike. In any event, armed intervention in Cuban affairs must inevitably prove a costly piece of business.

CROOKED WHISKY.

MATTERS AT ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS, December 13.—A large crowd assembled in the United States District Court to-day, in anticipation that the case of Supervisor Munn would be called, but it was not. District Attorney Dyer, however, presented the recognizance of Colonel Munn, taken before Judge Blodgett, of Chicago, in the sum of $10,000; also the recognizance of General Babcock for $7,000, both of which were filed.

D. W. Voorhees then moved that the cases of Colonel Munn and Constantine Maguire, under indictments found by the Grand Jury of the May term, and which were set for Wednesday, be certified up to the United States Circuit Court, January term, to follow the course of the indictments found against those gentlemen by the jury of the November term, just adjourned.

A report having gained circulation that new evidence of an important character, implicating parties not heretofore named, had been discovered, and that another Grand Jury would be impanneled, the District Attorney denied the report and stated that no Grand Jury would be impanneled until next May. A special venire for twenty additional petit jurors has been issued, however, so that the panel at the January term will consist of forty jurors, all of whom will be from places outside of St. Louis county.

AT MILWAUKEE.

MILWAUKEE, December 13.—Nothing of interest occurred in the whisky cases today. Burbach gave bail in the sum of $8,000 and was released to await sentence.

ILLICIT DISTILLERY IN COLORADO.

PUEBLO, Col., December 13.—The revenue officials have discovered an underground distillery for the manufacture of crooked whisky on the Ark river, about five miles above this city. The outfit was discovered on Sunday last by Deputy Collector Pierpont, United States Gauger Frank A. Cove and Deputy United States Marshal Harrington, Beatrice, Nebraska; W. F. Wright, North Platte, Nebraska; John Jones, Fort Taylor's Falls, Minnesota; P. C. Stetton, Detroit, Michigan. Postmasters—Charles C. Sewell, Mound City, Kansas; Josiah Bailey, Joseph M. Patterson, Piqua, Ohio; D. D. Taylor, Cambridge, Ohio; E. F. Bridgeport, O.; W. H. McCord, Tuscarawas, Ohio; Washington Court House, O.; H. Smith, Galena, O.; W. H. Wingate, Wingate; R. B. Crain, London, O.; O. T. Letcher, Bryan, O.; F. C. Wickham, Norwalk, O.; Richardson, Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Wm. F. Forsyth, Jefferson, Wis.; S. A. Wilcox, Berlin, Wis.; E. D. Henry, Omro, Wis.; James Green, Geneva, Mich.; L. A. Hamilton, Owasso, Mich.. Wm. Sayler, East Saginaw, Mich.; James W. Hine, Lowell, Mich.; Wm. H. Hurlbut, Kalamazoo, Mich.; G. R. Stone, Allegan, Mich.; Charles P. Crandall, Owatonna, Minn.; Clinton Spencer, Tyrellton, Minn.; W. J. Harding, Cambridge City, Ind.; Michael C. Garber, Madison, Ind.; W. W. Davis, Richmond, Ind.; A. F. Phillips, Kakoma, Ind.; Mrs. Sarah Hackleman, Rushville, Ind.; Luke M. Trevin, Lafayette, Ind.; Thomas Fortune, Ind.; William Wallace, Battle Creek, Mich.; A. P. Bone, Shelbyville, Ind.; William N. Hughes, Columbia, Tenn.

THE GOVERNMENT'S CUBAN POLICY.

The published report that the United States have submitted proposals to Great Britain, France and Germany looking to an intervention in the Cuban question, is contradicted. It may positively be asserted that, even if the Government should in the future be inclined to such intervention, it would do so without asking or desiring the co-operation of foreign powers.

The Archbishop of Cologne left that city on Tuesday, and is not expected to return. It is understood that he has delegated his powers to a subordinate ecclesiastic.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1875.

Unfavorable Condition of Spanish Negotiations.

The attitude of the Government on the Spanish question, it is learned from authoritative sources, resolves itself into one of peace, if Spain accepts our friendly efforts, or war, if an adjustment of some kind is not reached without further delay. The idea of a West Indian confederation, in the form of a protectorate under Spanish rule, would be unsatisfactory, and annexation to the United States is not considered sound policy. The tone of recent dispatches does not indicate a peaceable solution of this delicate diplomatic controversy.

No Union Men for Office in the House.

Mr. Randall is considerably exercised over the fact that he can get no patronage in the House. The Southern Democrats have the whip hand and they propose to use the lash liberally upon their subservient Northern allies. To-day a resolution was introduced to retain a few of the doorkeepers who were injured in the late war. The Democracy, who hate the Union, voted the proposition down by a majority of upward of five. Part of these cripples is without arms, another without feet. We may shortly expect to see rebel soldiers in their places.

Sympathy for Attack on Douglass.

Ex-Commissioner Douglass states that the attacks made upon him by Henderson were unjust; that he recommended the order transferring the Supervisors of Internal Revenue, and that Secretary Bristow issued it and subsequently revoked it, in spite of his urgent protests. Had Mr. Douglass not been interfered with, he says the whisky exposures would have been made weeks before.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1875.

Pension Agent at Philadelphia.

The President to-day nominated A. D. Wood, of Warren, Pa., to be Pension Agent at Philadelphia, in place of D. R. B. Nevin, whose term of office has expired. Mr. Wood is a native of Philadelphia, but settled in Warren in 1860 as a civil engineer. In 1869 he was appointed Assistant Clerk of the House of Representatives here. He has also been a frequent delegate to State Conventions and a member of the State Committee. Though he was not Senator Cameron's first choice, the nomination was not objectionable to him. When the name was reached in executive session to-day, on motion of Senator Cameron, it was taken up and, there being no objection, was immediately confirmed. Mr. Wood's nomination was decided on late yesterday It was made on the recommendation of Secretary Chandler and Representative Ross.

Instance of Nepotism.

In the consolidation of the Fifth and Third Internal Revenue districts of Maryland, an unusual case of nepotism was revealed. The Collector's name was Wilmar, and there were three deputies named Wilmar. The office was rented from a Wilmar.

Bale's Financial Resolution.

It is understood that Mr. Hale's financial resolution to-day will open this question after the holidays. Mr. Blaine will make it the occasion of his proposed speech. W. D. Kelley, it is understood, will reply. The House will then have a full debate, as a record vote will be inevitable.

Offices for Pennsylvanians.

The Pennsylvania Democrats in Congress held a caucus to-day in reference to the House patronage. Assurances having been given that the matter should be rectified, the caucus adjourned.

A Pittsburgher Gets One.

James M. Taylor, of Pittsburgh, has been appointed Messenger by the Postmaster of the House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1875.

CASE BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENT AND SPAIN.

The present distinctive point at issue between the United States and Spain is stated in non-official, but usually well-informed circles as follows:

The United States ask, first, that in future all American citizens in Cuba accused of violation of law shall be tried by the civil courts and not by military tribunals, with all rights in such cases guaranteed by the Seventh article of the Treaty of 1795; and, second, that all sentences where American citizens have heretofore been tried by military tribunals, shall be annulled. Spain in some degree concedes the claim of the United States to the first proposition, agreeing that in future American citizens accused of violation of law shall be tried by the ordinary tribunals, with the right to be heard by counsel, to summon witnesses and employ all other necessary safeguards of the accused, but the judgment of the Spanish authorities is that such trials shall be according to the law of 1821, which provides for more expeditious proceedings than those of the civil courts of this country. The question of peace. She also offers to reverse all sentences past by courts martial on Americans, where it shall be satisfactorily shown that such sentences were in violation of established law. This reply is unsatisfactory to the United States, which takes the ground that American citizens accused of crime are entitled to a civil court trial, but are entitled to a trial before a civil court only, as secured by treaty stipulations, without such reservation as is proposed by Spain.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

France.

SENATORIAL ELECTIONS—SUCCESS OF THE LEGITIMISTS.

VERSAILLES, December 11.—The following seven Legitimists have been elected to the Senate: Messrs. De la Rochette, Deputy for Loire Inferieure; Pajot, Deputy for the Nord; Thery, for the same department; the Count de Puy Montbrun, on the offer made by the Count of Cornulier-Lucinciere, Deputy for Loire Inferieure; Dumon; the Marquis De Franchieu, Deputy for the Hautes, Pyrenees record. Elected Colonel De Chadois, of the Left Center. Deputy for Dordogne; Humbert, of the Left, Deputy for Haute Garonne, and the Keith Bernard, of the Right, Deputy for Var. This makes ten altogether. The success of the Legitimists is owing to the support of the Left.

Ministers Buffet and Demaux, who both failed twice of an election to the Senate, have written letters withdrawing from the contest.

EXCITEMENT OVER THE REPUBLICAN VICTORY—THE PRESIDENT DISSATISFIED.

PARIS, December 12.—The excitement over the Senatorial election continues everywhere. Paris is never slow to catch the semblance of a political movement; and now that the Left has so handsomely beaten the Right, and in the scrutiny have shown the strength of Republicanism, the sensation is very intense. Notwithstanding the report that the Bonapartists had assisted the Left in obtaining the majority in the election of Senators for life, they will dispute the validity of the Senatorial elections by an expiring Chamber. The majority of the Right is variously resolved by the defection of the Legitimists. The feeling is intensified by the fact that out of eleven life Senators elected by the Assembly seven are Republicans. President MacMahon is highly dissatisfied with the result of the elections. The Left expect that in the spring they will obtain a majority which will please him. The effect on MacMahon would be the same as the effect of Democratic success on Grant. The bourse has become very greatly alarmed over the result of the elections, for the success of the Republicans means a disturbance of conservative financial interests.

Spain.

COMMENTS OF MADRID JOURNALS ON GRANT'S MESSAGE.

MADRID, December 9.—The journals of this city comment variously on the message of President Grant, but all hope that Spain will vanquish the insurrection in Cuba by that energetic course.

MADRID, December 9.—Thursday morning's paper express the opinion that the portion of President Grant's message on Cuban affairs is in no respect inferior to former utterances on the subject. The Conservative journals consider his language serious. The general opinion in political circles is that President Grant no doubt relies upon it to promote his aims. With wisdom at Washington and in the States we have carried, we can surely end this Cuban question. But to hold it for a haphazard candidate is hardly worth the candle. For one of a vast multitude I want to hold it for you. Yours very truly,

JOHN Y. FOSTER.

A *Times* reporter visited Mr. John Y. Foster, editor of the Newark *Evening Courier*, at his house in Newark, yesterday, to ascertain the meaning of the above letter, and he said he wrote and mailed it to Mr. Blaine, but that the latter never received it. The reference to "the secret anti-Catholic order," he said, meant the order of United American Mechanics.

Millers of the Northwest.

CHICAGO, December 15.—The millers met at the Grand Pacific at two P. M. to-day. The Committee on Transportation reported progress. A permanent association was formed by the millers of the Northwest; also, a separate association of millers of Minnesota, and one by the millers of Wisconsin. It is understood that a satisfactory arrangement has been effected with Eastern railroads respecting freights on flour to the seaboard. Good feeling between the millers and transportation men has been established.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1875.

SENATE.

Mr. EDMUNDS, from the Judiciary Committee, reported the Senate bill to extend the duration of the Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims, with several verbal amendments. He said it was desirable to have this bill passed by both Houses of Congress before the holiday recess. It merely provided for continuing the court six months, and did not touch disputed questions connected with that court. The bill was passed.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the motion submitted by the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. West), last week, to grant the request of W. L. McMillan to withdraw his papers claiming a seat in the Senate as Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. SAULSBURY said he had no particular objection to the withdrawal of these papers, but it seemed to him a rather strange proceeding, and he would like to know something of the reasons therefor.

Mr. EDMUNDS inquired whether the credentials of Mr. McMillan came to the Senate from the Governor of Louisana, according to law, or whether they had been submitted by Mr. McMillan himself.

The CHAIR (Mr. Ferry) replied that the credentials were presented by the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCreery).

Mr. EDMUNDS said he had no objection to their withdrawal.

Mr. THURMAN said it was a matter of no consequence to the respondents whether the papers were withdrawn or not; undoubtedly their withdrawal would put an end to the claim of Mr. Millan for a seat in this body. The Senate would have no effect whatever on the claim of Pinchback for a seat. The committee of the Senate had reported that neither the body which elected Pinchback nor that which elected McEnery was properly constituted by the State.

Mr. DAVIS inquired if there were not two sets of credentials of McMillan.

The CHAIR replied that there were two sets —those presented by the Senator from Kentucky and those sent directly to the Senate.

Mr. MORTON said there never was any such body as the McEnery Legislature. This whole McEnery government was a sham and a fraud.

Mr. STEVENSON, of Kentucky, said that in a personal aspect this matter amounted to very little, but when credentials, properly authenticated by the Governor of a State, were laid upon the table it became more than a personal matter and the claimant had no right to withdraw them. He took issue with the Senator from Indiana (Morton) as to the McEnery government being a fraud. He (Stevenson) believed it was the legitimate government of Louisiana, and the Kellogg government a fraud, a usurpation and a monstrosity. The Committee on Privileges and Elections had reported to the Senate that the Kellogg government was a fraud, and the record would show it. He argued that the Senate was estopped by the report of the committee from recognizing the Kellogg government.

Mr. HOWE denied that the Senate was estopped by the committee report. He would not consider himself estopped by the report of any committee.

Mr. WEST said it occurred to him that the credentials of any person, after once being placed in the custody of the Senate, ought not to be withdrawn. They came to the Senate from a sovereign State, and it was the right of a State to be represented before the United States a certificate that she had exercised her sovereign power by electing a Senator of the United States. Without reference to the question whether McEnery or Kellogg was entitled Governor of Louisana, he argued that McMillan had no right to come here and ask to withdraw his papers. He moved that the motion to grant the request to withdraw be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Rejected without devision.

Mr. BAYARD inquired in whose custody these documents would be delivered in case the Senate acceded to the request. They came from the State of Louisiana and could not be delivered to McMillan. He read from the *Record* to show that McMillan's credentials were also presented by Mr. West and referred to the Committe on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. HOWE said he did not desire to raise an issue with any Senator, on the offer made by Mr. West to withdraw the papers. The custody or value of these precious papers, undoubtedly they came from the Senate in such a shape as to place them on the Journal and make them part of the record. It would almost be an act of usurpation on the part of the Senate to allow papers in regard to claims to be withdrawn. No injustice could be done by allowing Mr. McMillan to be withdrawn, and he was in favor of it.

Mr. BAYARD said he believed in his soul that McEnery was the legal Governor of Louisiana and had been kept from his place by military power and Federal power. [Sighs and pause in the gallery, but promptly checked.] After question had been further discussed Mr. West to grant the request to withdraw the credentials, it was agreed to—yeas 36, nays 28.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The SPEAKER called the States for bills and resolutions, under which call bills, etc., were introduced and referred as follows:

By Mr. BLAINE—Proposing an amendment to the Constitution, providing that no State shall make any law restricting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and that no money raised by taxation in any State for the support of public schools, or derived from any public fund therefor, nor any public lands devoted thereto, shall ever be under the control of any religious sect; nor shall any money or lands so raised or derived be divided between religious sects or denominations.

By Mr. DAVIS, of North Carolina—To repeal the law forbidding the payment of accounts, claims and demands on Southern citizens for quartermaster's stores, and appropriating $500,000 to pay for the same.

By Mr. MOFFITT—To remove political disabilities from all citizens of the United States and prescribe a uniform oath of office.

By Mr. BUCKNER offered the following resolution and asked that it be put on its passage:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to transmit to the House such correspondence with reference to the mission of ex-Senator John B. Henderson as one of the special counsel of the United States in the prosecution of the fraud cases now pending before the United States Court at St. Louis.

Mr. BUCKNER suggested that the words "if not incompatible with the public interest," be inserted in the resolution.

Voices on the Democratic side—No! No!

Mr. BUCKNER declined so to modify the resolution.

Mr. HASSON made the point of order that under rule a resolution calling for executive information, when objected to, must lie over a day.

The SPEAKER sustained the point of order, and the resolution went over.

Mr. CANNON introduced a bill to enable the people of Utah to form a Constitution and State government, and to admit Utah into the Union as a State.

By Mr. HARRIS, of Virginia—To aid the Washington, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company to construct a narrow gauge railroad from Front Royal to St. Louis and Chicago.

By Mr. RANDALL offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit copies of all letters, telegrams, orders and instructions relating to the organization and prosecution of the present movement against the whisky ring at St. Louis, Chicago and Milwaukee.

Mr. KASSON objected to the present consideration of the resolution, and asked that, under the rule, it lie over for one day. He wished to see that it was carefully worded.

Mr. RANDALL asked him whether he objected to the resolution.

Mr. KASSON replied that he made no objection to anything which was consistent with the successful prosecution of the pending proceedings.

Mr. RANDALL said that the object of the resolution was to have the House fully informed of what was being done in the matter by the Government.

Mr. HOAR intimated that the effect would be to expose to the whisky ring the purposes of the Government.

Mr. RANDALL replied that the resolution contemplated no such purpose. The resolution then went over until to-morrow.

The Senate bill extending the duration of the Alabama Commission was taken up and passed.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1875.

SENATE.

Mr. MORTON submitted a preamble and resolution declaring that it had been alleged that fraud and corruption prevailed in Mississippi during the late election in that State and that the popular majority of 25,000 was overcome and a fraudulent majority of over 25,000 returned, and providing for the appointment of a committee of five Senators to visit such State and to inquire into the circumstances attending the election. Laid over at the request of Mr. Bayard.

Mr. STEVENSON submitted a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit to the Senate, if not incompatible with the public interest, copies of all telegrams, letters and other information in his possession relating to alleged violations of the internal revenue laws at St. Louis, Chicago and Milwaukee.

Mr. SHERMAN opposed the resolution, and said that to make this information public might defeat the ends of justice and allow the escape of some of the guilty ones.

Mr. STEVENSON had every confidence in the Secretary of the Treasury, but thought the Senate should have the information; but as the Senator from Ohio [Sherman] objected to it he [Stevenson] would not object to having it referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. MORTON said he would vote for the resolution, leaving it discretionary with the Secretary of the Treasury to withhold such information as might impede the course of justice.

Mr. STEVENSON said that he desired to embarrass the Secretary of the Treasury, and therefore withdrew the resolution.

Mr. COOPER gave notice that on Tuesday next, he would ask the Senate to consider resolutions in memory of the life and services of his late colleague, Andrew Johnson.

Mr. MORTON submitted the following concurrent resolutions:

Resolved, By the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that the people of the United States constitute a nation and are one people in the sense of national unity.

Resolved, That the Government of the United States is not a compact between States in their corporate capacity, but was formed by the people of the United States, in their primary capacity; that the rights of the States are defined and guaranteed by the Constitution and not by any outside theory of State sovereignty, and that the rights of the States cannot be enlarged or diminished except by an amendment to the Constitution.

Resolved, That the rights of the States have the same sanction and security in the Constitution as the rights and power of the National Government, and that local domestic government by the States, within the limits of the Constitution, is an essential of our free republican system.

Resolved, That the doctrine that a State has the right to secede from the Union is inconsistent with the idea of nationality, is in conflict with the true construction of the Constitution and should be regarded as having been forever extinguished by the suppression of the rebellion.

Mr. MORTON asked to have the resolutions printed and laid on the table, and it was so ordered.

HOUSE.

The SPEAKER stated that inasmuch as the committees were not appointed, he would proceed with the call of States for bills and resolutions.

Mr. HALE, of Maine, offered the following resolution and moved the previous question on its adoption:

WHEREAS, The country is suffering under the evils of an inconvertible currency, which causes uncertainty in business and stimulates speculation to the prejudice of legitimate business and labor; and

WHEREAS, Both political parties in the United States have repeatedly committed themselves in favor of a speedy return to specie payments; and

WHEREAS, Congress established a like policy in the act of March 18, 1869, which was followed by the act of January 14, 1875, providing for the return to specie payments on the first day of January, 1879; therefore

Resolved, That in the judgment of this House, prompt legislative measures should be taken to render such act of January 14, 1875, effective, by placing in the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury whatever powers may be necessary to that end.

Mr. JONES, of Kentucky, moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Mr. HALE—On that motion I call for the yeas and nays.

Mr. WOOD—I ask the Chair whether this resolution is not of that peculiar character that it should necessarily be considered by a committee. [Laughter on the Republican side of the House.]

The SPEAKER—The Chair does not regard that as a proper parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. HALE—I withdraw the motion. [Triumphant laughter on the Republican side.]

Mr. WOOD—I move to lay the motion. [Laughter.] So far as I am personally concerned, the gentlemen know what my opinion is, and therefore I am ready to vote now; but my friends seem to prefer that the resolution should be referred to a committee, and I hope some gentleman will renew the motion; I therefore, withdraw my motion to lay on the table.

Mr. HALE demanded the yeas and nays on the previous question.

The House refused to second the previous question—ayes 75, noes 45. Several Republicans voted in the negative. Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, who was the first man to pass between the tellers on that side.

The resolution, on the motion of Mr. HOLMAN, referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

Bills were further introduced and referred, as follows:

By Mr. STARKWEATHER—To amend the law in relating to postage on mailable matter of the United States, providing that from the first of January, 1876, postage on pamphlets, transient newspapers, periodicals and magazines, bound blank books, unsealed circulars, prospectuses, proof sheets and corrected proof sheets shall be one cent for every two ounces or fractional part thereof, and that postage on other mailable matter shall remain as provided by law. He moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Mr. RANDALL suggested that the bill should be referred to a committee, as it was very general in its provisions.

Mr. LAWRENCE stated that a like bill in substance had been passed by the House several times, particularly in regard to pensioners of the war of 1812.

Mr. HOLMAN said that act only concerned pensioners and applied to the bill now proposed went far beyond that. He did not think it safe to legislate on such a measure without the committee.

The bill was thereupon referred.

Bills and resolutions were further introduced and referred, as follows:

By Mr. RAINEY—To abolish the House Committee on Freedman's Affairs.

By Mr. COOK—To refund the cotton tax collected between 1861 and 1868, also to authorize payment for all cotton seized by the United States after May 29, 1865.

By Mr. SWANN—Instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the expediency of restoring to the Japanese Government the indemnity fund, and the indemnity fund as may not be necessary to meet just claims the claimants and expenses properly chargeable on that fund. Adopted.

Also declaring it to be the sense of the House that no appropriation shall be strictly construed which, without unnecessary shock to business, will withdraw from the purchasing power of the gold and paper dollar. He remarked that the resolution embodied, in substance, the financial views of the leading Republican platform of Ohio. He moved its adoption.

Mr. HOLMAN moved its reference to the Committee on Banking and Currency, and it was so referred.

Mr. HOLMAN offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this House, in the present condition of the financial affairs of the Government, no sale of the money, bonds, public lands, indorsements or by the pledge of the public credit, should be granted by Congress to associations or corporations engaged or proposing to engage in public or private enterprises, other than appropriations from the public Treasury ought to be limited at this time to such amounts only as shall be imperatively demanded by the public service. He moved the previous question on its adoption.

Mr. HOAR inquired whether the resolution was intended to cut off an appropriation for the Centennial.

Mr. HOLMAN replied that it was not so int

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, December 18, 1875.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 15, 1875.

The loan market was quiet and easy to-day, with a moderate amount of business of every character. The banks are abundantly supplied with funds, which they do not find very active employment for in all cases. Rates for discount are nominally unchanged, but desirable paper of the proper character could be placed below the quoted rates, which are 8@9 per cent. on sixty to ninety days commercial bills at the banks. In general financial matters there was little news. The bankruptcy of the wholesale drug firm of R. E. Sellers & Co. was announced, but no particulars as to assets or liabilities are given as yet. In stocks and securities there is little new to report. We notice that Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis mortgage bonds have fallen off slightly from their highest figures recently attained, sales having been made in Philadelphia yesterday at 78¾@79. Oil Creek and Allegheny Valley Railroad stock has also eased off a trifle, being now quoted at 10¾. In addition, we hear of transactions in Philadelphia of Pennsylvania Railroad 1st mortgage 6s at 105¾; Northern Pacific, 7-30s at 103⅞@106; Stubenville and Indiana Railroad 7s at 80½; Allegheny Valley Railroad 7-30s at 95¼; Pennsylvania Railroad stock at 51; and Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company's stock 76. Our local stock market furnished no news to say the least. The following table gives capital stock, surplus, dividends and approximate stock quotations of the national banks of this city and Allegheny:

Banks.	Capital.	Surplus and Profits.	Last Dividend.	Asked.	Bid.
Pittsburgh	300	161	10@5	190	180
Citizens'	200	102	10@11	118	114
Commercial	200	185	10@10	100	95
Fourth	300	168	10@10	178	170
Fifth	300	16	10@12	125	115
Third	300	176	6@	95	90
Citizens'	300	219	5@	97	95
Iron City	300	14	5@	97	95
Diamond	200	21	100	108	104
Humboldt	300	50	5@	95	90
Exchange	1,500	481	5@	96½	94
Mechanics'	250	50	5@	95	90
German	200	196	10@10	142	136
Iron City	300	302	5@	110	105
Monongahela	300	279	5@	97	93
Ohio & M	300	209	5@	95	90
Marine	200	50	5@	95	90
Metropolitan	200	21	5@	92	90
Peoples'	1,500	174	10@10	120	115
Smithfield	100	50	5@	95	90
Tradesmen's	300	108	5@	115	110
Nat. B'k of Commerce	500	137	10@	137	130
Union	500	220	10@	220	210
Second	300	200	10@	200	190
Int. Ally	300	152	10@10	175	165
Pittsburgh	300	91	10@	125	120
5th Ave	200	18	50	50	45
Allegheny	300	50	5@	82½	80
Second	200	50	5@	100	95
German, A'l'y	200	196	10@10	150	140

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	51	51¼	100
Reading	55¼	55¾	1,000
United Co's of N. J.	134½	135	
Camden & Amboy	150	150½	100
Lehigh Valley	62¾	62¾	400
Allegheny Valley	10¾	11	600
Philadelphia & Erie	25	26	100
Empire Transp'n Co.	51¼		

—The Chemical National Bank of New York has a capital of $300,000, a surplus of $1,000,000, undivided profits of $1,992,591 67, in the last report, and paid 10 per cent. in dividends last year. Among its stockholders are Alex. T. Stewart, James Lennox and Commodore Vanderbilt. The market value of its $100 shares is about $1,650 each, and there is a standing offer of $1,600 a share. Its individual deposits are about $3,000,000, and its loans and discounts about the same. This immense and lucrative business has been built up by adherence to a most conservative and old-fashioned policy. Its history begins with that of the Chemical Manufacturing Works, incorporated fifty years ago, with John Mason as President. The capital was $100,000 for the chemical works, and $200,000 for banking. The manufacture of chemicals did not prove profitable, and, although the works were kept in charge of the enterprise, it was abandoned. The bank was opened and John Mason was President, with John H. Mason as Cashier. The bank has had a satisfactory business, though it reached no brilliant results until after Mr. Mason's death, which occurred in 1860. Since then it has been increasing in reputation and credit. Business has increased, and new capitalists have sought it as a place of secure deposit. In this way the profits have grown in a steady proportion until a regular yearly dividend of 100 per cent. is now declared.

—The unsettled feeling in the London stock market following the Suez canal purchase by the British Government is reported in the form of the bonds of the United States Government. The London correspondent of the *Financial Chronicle* says, November 27:

In the Stock Exchange the chief movement has, of course, been in Egyptian Government securities, which have greatly improved, owing to the altered position of the Viceroy, at all events, financially, if not politically. As, however, the political feature has assumed a more uncertain aspect, there has been much cautious dealing during the last two days, and a tendency to depression has been strongly apparent. United States Government securities have been strongly in demand for investment, and in the early part of the week there was a decided upward movement in the quotations.

—The Superior Court of Cincinnati, in Bonner vs. The Northwestern Life Insurance Company, takes ground against the adjudication that a person without a pecuniary interest in the life of another cannot hold a policy on that life. The case was that of a sister who had insured her brother's life, and the company pleaded in defense that it was a gambling policy. The Court said that the courts of New York and Massachusetts had decided the other way, and they would follow those decisions in preference to the English, at the same time denouncing with justifiable severity the conduct of the underwriters in continuing to accept the premiums until death and then interposing this technical defense.

[By Associated Press.]
Gold Closed at 114¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 15.—Money 4@6 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 6@8per cent. Customs receipts $130,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $173,000. Clearings $25,000,000. Sterling steady at 485@489.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 114¾, with sales in the interim at 114¾. Rates paid for carrying were 1 and 2 per cent.; loans also made flat.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds active and firm. Railroad bonds in good demand. Northwestern consolidated coupon gold bonds advanced to 86¾ do sterling bonds to 85¾. Rock Island, St. Paul, LaCrosse division, sold at 97¾ and consolidated sinking funds at 81½; Union Pacific firsts sold at 104½@104¾, sinking funds at 91¾; Central Pacific advanced to 107; Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis firsts sold at 106. State securities quiet. The stock market was extremely dull, the only feature of interest being Hudson River, which declined to 74 and, subsequently rose to 75¼ on the announcement from Washington that the Board has passed the resolution committing itself against the granting of any subsidies, which interpret to mean the non-passage of any other line to the Pacific coast which would compete with the Government. The day's quite large transactions, rose to 175, and closed at 17. Other changes were unimportant. Sales at the Stock Exchange 60,000 shares, of which 4,000 were Pacific Mail, 9,000 Western Union, 3,000 Northwestern, 4,000 St. Paul, 17,000 Erie, 13,000 Lake Shore and 6,000 Rock Island.

The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.

W. U. Telegraph	75¾	St. Paul	33½
Pacific Mail	40½	Do preferred	65½
New York Central	102½	Toledo & Wabash	24
Wells Fargo Ex	93	Do preferred	50
American Ex	57	Terre Haute	5
United States Ex	85½	Do preferred	20
New York Central	102½	Fort Wayne	99
Erie	17	Chicago & Alton	93½
Erie preferred	32	Do preferred	118
Harlem	134	Ohio & Mississippi	30
Do preferred	135	Illinois Central	120
Mich. Central	69½	Burling'n & Quincy	114¾
Lake Shore	81½	Hannibal & St. Jos.	21½
Illinois Central	120	Do preferred	30
Cleveland & Pitts.	89½	Atlantic & Pac Tel	18
Chicago & Rock I.	115¾	Western Union Tel	75¾
Do preferred	50	Central Pac. bds	103½
C. J. Central	105	Union Pac. bds	104½
Rock Island	104		

*Ex-dividend.

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	118¾	New 5's	112⅝
5-20's, 1865	116¾	10-40's	112⅝
5-20's, 1865, new	120⅝	10-40's coupons	118¾
5-20's, 1867, registered	119	Currency 6's	123½
5-20's, 1867, coupon	123		
5-20's, 1868, registered	119		
5-20's, 1868, coupon	123		
10-40's, registered	117⅝		
10-40's, coupons	118¾		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	40½	Virginia, old	37
Tennessee, new	43¾	Missouri 6's	102⅞
Virginia, new	38		

LONDON, December 15, 5 P. M.—Consols for money 93 15-16; for account 93 15-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 104; do 1867, 105¾, ex coupon; 10-40's 106¾; new 5's 105. Railroad secured 8s, new York Central 96; Erie 14¾; do preferred 31.

PARIS, December 15.—Rentes 50 francs 50 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 15.—United States bonds—5-20's, 104¾.

NEW ORLEANS, December 15.—Gold 113¾. Sight ¼ discount. Sterling—Commercial 547½@548½.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
WEDNESDAY, December 15, 1875. }

Commercial circles continued quiet to-day, the trade being principally confined to small orders for reassortments and replenishment of stocks for immediate consumptive requirements. Prices as a rule showed little variation, and the only noticeable changes in prices were an advance in crude petroleum and some minor alterations in dry goods. In grain there was a dull and limited trade with a steady feeling in corn and a slight upward movement in oats. The principal features of the Board, feed and produce trades were unchanged with a steady movement in all branches. Provisions did a steady but rather slow business at unchanged prices. Groceries were moderately active at steady prices, with sugars and coffees both firm at former quotations. In dry goods there is a moderate trade with some price-changes of minor importance. Petroleum was firm and slightly advanced for crude, while refined was steady. Other lines of merchandise were steady and unchanged.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	600 Apples, bbls	437
Corn, bus	2,388 Butter, pkgs	43
Wheat, bus	1,080 Bacon pcs	305
Barley, bus	1,000 Cheese, lt. pkgs	30
Oats, bus	6,678 Hay, bales	325

‖The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

Articles.	Last week.	This week.	Total
Flour, bbls	8,094	7,945	16,039
Apples, bbls	991	1,256	2,247
Cheese, lbs	1,024	752	1,776
Corn, bus	8,911	8,142	15,053
Wheat, bus	11,500	4,946	16,544
Barley, bus	8,831	13,226	22,057
Rye, bus	1,950	1,250	3,200
Oats, bus	8,735	15,650	24,385
Butter, pkgs	511	1,020	1,531
Bacon, pcs	11,578	10,813	22,391
Bacon, lbs	450	180	630
Potatoes, bus	6,150	4,962	11,112
Hay, bales	1,504	2,696	4,200

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed

GRAIN—There continues to be a limited trade in all kinds of grain, and dealers universally report the market in a very unsatisfactory condition. Receipts are light, and not nearly equal to the demand. Wheat was quiet and the demand from the millers was slack, owing to the strong competition against their product from spring wheat flours. We quote No. 1 white wheat flour at $8 00@8 25; No. 2 do at $7 50@7 75; red winter flour $7 25@7 50; spring wheat flour $7 25@8 00; well known brands of family flour $8 50@9 00; and fancy do $9 00@10 00. Rye flour $5 75@6 00; Minnesota $6 75@7 00; fancy St. Louis $8 00@8 50; choice patents $8 50@9 00; new red winter wheat, No. 1 quality, $1 45@1 50; amber do $1 40@1 45; white do $1 45@1 50; Graham flour $7 00@7 25; self raising flour, in 6 lb packages, $3 25@3 50; dozen packages; oatmeal $6 per bbl; oatmeal $7 00@8 bbl; kegs $4 75; rye flour $5 25@5 50.

HAY—There is a steady but not very active market at about former quotations. Receipts are liberal, but the sales for the past few days. Values are quotably unchanged. We quote prime No. 1 timothy, on truck, at $20 00@21 00; No. 2 do $18 00@19 00; upland prairie $12 00@14 00. Sales from store were steady at $23 00@24 00.

MILL FEED—There is a decrease of the weak and overloaded Western markets continues, and prices for mill feed are extremely depressed. We quote bran at 80@90c per cwt; second 85c@$1 00 per cwt; middlings at $1 10@1 25 per cwt; coarse meal in round lots $1 00 per cwt; chopped feed at 2@$1 30.

Country Produce.

APPLES—Receipts have nearly ceased, being but 1,256 barrels for the week. The market is very quiet, the demand being slack with a large stock in warehouse. Commission houses are all of a jobbing character, from store. Choice eating apples rule at $3 50@3 75 ₱ barrel; large quantities are being shipped to medium grades in light demand at $2 50@3 00.

BEANS—The receipts continue very large and prices are low, the market closing weak with a dull and drooping tendency. Prime white navy beans are quoted at $2 00@2 10 by way at $1 50@1 55 per bushel; medium is nominally at $1 40@1 50, with none in the market on account of the cheapness of navies, and such lots would have to be sold at a concession from these figures.

BUTTER—The market is quiet with little doing except in a jobbing way; nominally 30@32c ₱ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—We quote buckwheat flour firm at $3 00@3 15 ₱ cwt.

BOTTLED GOODS—There continued brisk on choice grades to-day, all the strictly choice that was offered being readily taken at 90c. No actual advance in quotations can be established, but the market closed buoyant on all fruits and vegetables. We quote prices as follows: dairy at 29@31c; fair to good 22@26c; common to fair 15@20c. The week's receipts by rail were 312 packages.

CHEESE—The movement in cheese continues slow, and the general condition of the market is no rather firm and prices September make no find ready sale at full prices. The week's receipts were 722 boxes, a slight decrease from those of the preceding week. We quote prime Ohio factory at 13¾@14c ₱ lb for September; New York Goshen 14@14½c; Scotch Cheddar Limberger 15@16c.

DRIED FRUITS—The market moves steadily in this line with a fair demand and abundant supply. Dried-apples are in demand at 10¼@12c ₱ lb for choice quality; peaches plentiful and scarce and higher at 14@14½c for choice halves; 13@13c for prime do; dried blackberries 12@13c.

EGGS—The market was steady and prices were firm at 30c for strictly fresh and choice fresh. Quotations for strictly fresh are 28@29c per dozen; pickled are in good supply and easy at 22@23c.

GAME—The market continues active and firm under the influence of cold weather and good demand. We quote venison at 12c per pound for short saddles; 16 @18c for long saddles; whole carcasses, 9c per pound. Rabbits sold at 30@40c per pair, and squirrels at $1 20@1 30 per dozen. Quail were quoted at $2 25@2 50 per dozen; grouse $4 00@4 50 per dozen; prairie chickens $4 00@4 50 per dozen; pheasants $4 00@5 00.

HONEY—New domestic honey is steady at 25 @28c ₱ lb; California is quoted at 30c ₱ lb.

HOPS—Business in hops is only for present use and prices continue depressed. Choice 1875 rule 15c, while mediums are to be had at lower prices.

MINCE MEAT—Prices are quoted at 10¼@11c ₱ lb.

NUTS—The supply is liberal and the market easy. Chestnuts are easy at $3 00@3 50 per bushel; peanuts are in fair request at easy prices; prime white Tennessee nuts rule at 6@ 6½c, according to quality; Virginia, 2¾@3c; shellbarks are easy at $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel; walnuts depressed at 20@30c ₱ bushel; hazel nuts $2 50@4 00 ₱ bushel.

POTATOES—The market is quiet and steady with nothing done in car lots on track. Receipts are light, having been but 4,962 bushels for the week. The demand is not active, although the stock held here is not half what it was last year. The jobbing trade from store moves along slowly but steadily at former prices. We quote for round lots on track at 30@35c for Peerless and Early Rose; 42@45c for prime peachblows. From store there is a quiet but easy market at 45@50c ₱ bushel.

POULTRY—The demand was active to-day and the market was firm at full prices. The supply was not very heavy and was not at all in excess of the demand. Live chickens are quoted at 45@50c ₱ pair; live turkeys 25@ 28. Dressed poultry is dull and nominal; chickens 12@13c ₱ lb; turkeys 18@19c; ducks 13@14c.

SEEDS—Flax seed is quiet at $1 50@1 60; timothy seed is jobbing at $2 75@2 80 ₱ bushel. Clover seed $7 25@7 50.

VEGETABLES—Onions are in large stock dull and lower. We quote at $1 35@1 50 ₱ barrel. Dried green peas are quoted at $1 60@1 75 ₱ bushel.

[By Associated Press.]
Provisions.

A steady and unchanged movement continues to characterize the provision market. The demand is rather sluggish, and doesnot go beyond requirements for present consumption. The week's receipts are 10,813 pieces and 180 tierces, a falling off of about 50 per cent. from the previous week. There is a light stock of cured meats in the market, the receipts being composed largely of green and half-cured. Values are unchanged.

BACON—The shoulders at 10¾c ₱ lb; there are no old sides in market, and prices are wholly nominal as follows: clear rib sides 14¾c; clear sides 15¾c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar-cured easy at 15c; sugar-cured pickled hams 15¾@16c. Breasted bacon is quoted at 16c; dried beef easy at 14¾@ 15¾c; beef tongues, per dozen, $7 00; ham sausages $1 50.

MESS PORK—The market is easy but not quotably lower. We quote at $20 00@20 50.

LARD—We quote prime lard, refined, in tierces, ₱ lb 13¾@14c; hair bbls do 14¾@14¾c; in kegs 15¾@15c; in 3 ₱ pails, 16¾c; in 5 ₱ do 17¾c; in 5 ₱ do 17¾c.

LARD OIL—The market is easy. We quote extra No. 1 lard oil, current make, $1 05@1 08; No. 1 do $1 00@1 02; No. 2 do 90@95c.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' tallow at 10@ 10¼c; choice country rendered 9@9¼c; medium do 7½@8c.

The Chicago *Tribune* reviews Monday's provision trade as follows: Receipts of hog products were only moderately active but stronger in tone in the speculative articles, in consequence of the light receipts and comparatively small supply at all ports is large, being late in the week 20,621 bags, against 72,653 same time last year, and 40,000 bags, which can seemingly be compensated by increased activity during the next few months. The further encouraging consumption of hog product is increasing faster than the supply, the markets of the world being now nearly bare in the middle of packing season; and the stuff has all been taken at prices of three to five points of years ago would have been considered too high to be compatible with a good demand. There are, however, many features in the situation which weigh much more than last year, but it appears to us that the trade is in better shape the present season with much less stock on hand than heretofore, and have to increase our unusual packing to meet the current demand of that part of the year."

Petroleum.

December 16.—The crude petroleum markets of the oil region have displayed considerable firmness since our last report, making a net advance of about 25c from previous quotations. This advance gives the refined market a decided upward movement in the quotations. The opening trade from store moves along slowly but steadily at former prices. We quote for round lots on track at 30@35c for Peerless and Early Rose; 42@45c for prime peachblows. From store there is a quiet but easy market at 45@50c ₱ bushel.

POULTRY—The demand was active to-day and the market was firm at full prices. The supply was not very heavy and was not at all in excess of the demand. Live chickens are quoted at 45@50c ₱ pair; live turkeys 25@ 28. Dressed poultry is dull and nominal; chickens 12@13c ₱ lb; turkeys 18@19c; ducks 13@14c.

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1875.

It seems impossible to convict a Democrat in Luzerne county, no matter how guilty he is. The jury that tried BRAMISH, of Scranton, the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Democratic House of Representatives, of this State, upon a charge of embezzling $10,000 of the school fund of Scranton, stood eleven to one for his conviction, and the one who held out was a well-known Democratic office-hunter. The trial, just over, of Prothonotary TRIMMER, of the same county, charged with fraudulently altering election returns, or conniving at it, has resulted in the same way. The jury stood ten to two—the two obstinate men being Democrats with axes to grind. There was no question as to the guilt of either of these parties. The cases against both were clearly made out; but a Luzerne Democrat is bound to stand by his friends, in spite of all the evidence that can be brought against them.

The irruption of Texans and Virginians into Washington city, hunting for office in the Democratic House, is said to be frightful. New England and New York have both to stand out of the way, and no Democrat can obtain an office who does not possess the lank jaws of the hungry Virginian, or who does not talk like a plantation slave. Uncle JACOB ZEIGLER, and quiet, modest men like him from Pennsylvania, were thrust aside with as little regard as they would have been if they had been Republicans, by the hordes of Southern Goths and Vandals which have captured the Capital city of the Union. The Washington *Star* says that "Virginia has swooped down upon the offices in a way that puts, not only New England, but all the other States of the Union out in the cold. Not since the days of the war when Confederate prisoners were marched through the streets, has there been such an irruption of gaunt, hungry Virginians. The restaurants have to make a complete revolution of dishes to suit the new order of things. Baked beans are supplanted by bacon and greens, and pumpkin pie is nowhere."

As BISHOP SIMPSON will be largely quoted, on the authority of the Philadelphia *Item*, as saying that "should President GRANT be re-elected the people will have done wisely;" we put on record his prompt denial of the manufactured allegation:

PHILADELPHIA, December 11, 1875.
To the Editor of the Philadelphia Item:

DEAR SIR.—I have just seen your paper of yesterday containing the report of an interview.

The statements, as made, are generally correct but in two points the reporter certainly misapprehended me:

1. I did not say that the majority of Methodist ministers and people thought that I had not heard any general expression of opinion. But, I supposed that Methodist ministers and people would be divided on that, as on other political questions.

Will you do me the kindness to insert this note? Yours, truly,

M. SIMPSON.

The readers of newspapers, generally, will do well to refuse their credence, just now, to the report of *any* interview whatever. The average interviewer is, or seems to be, incapable of making a correct statement of what is said to him. Just now there is a mania, on the part of certain papers anxious for Presidential recognition, for spreading the idea that the whole Methodist body is about to rise up and demand GRANT's renomination; and Bishop SIMPSON has fallen a victim to the lively imagination of a reporter whose employer has the mania in its most virulent shape.

HENDERSON'S OFFENSE.

The removal of Hon. J. B. HENDERSON from the place of Assistant District Attorney of the United States, at St. Louis, to which position he procured the confirmation of JOYCE, MCDONALD and AVERY, because of remarks made by him reflecting on the President in his speech to the jury on the trial of the AVERY case, has naturally called attention to the language used by him on that occasion. We append an extract from his speech, containing the language to which the President very properly took exception:

"This is the blot upon our Government, that it is possible for such things to exist. They could not exist under the Roman power, or any other civilized government, but are peculiar to our boasted Republic. It is party, party, party that damns our country, and he who has the courage to rise above the dregs of party is worthy of more credit than the bravest of old Roman soldiers. Under the name of party every fraud and infamy within the range of possibilities are perpetrated. It is to be hoped and prayed that the time is coming when a man who has the impervious force of character to resist this direful enemy will be looked up to as a hero. But we may go to the bottom—corruption may feast in all our institutions, and our nation may decay and fall before we learn this grand truth. I respect party when it is composed of honest men, organized for honest purposes; but when it is composed of men banded together to perpetrate frauds upon the Government, or to serve the personal ends of its leaders, then away with it.

"What right had Babcock to go to Douglass to induce him to withdraw his agents? Douglass was appointed by the Secretary to see that the revenue laws of the Government were properly enforced. What business, then, had Douglass with him? When an official goes into office, he should be free and independent of all influences except of law, and if he recognize any other master, then this Government is tumbling down. *What right had the President to interfere with Commissioner Douglass in the proper discharge of his duties, or with the Treasurer?* None; and Douglass showed a lamentable weakness of character when he listened to Babcock's dictates. He should either have insisted that his orders as they existed be carried out, or should have resigned his office.

"Douglass now determined that his only course was to change the supervisors all over the country, and this would necessarily expose fraud. On January 26, 1875, he telegraphed Hoar: 'You are hereby ordered to report in person to Supervisor Tutton, who supersedes McDonald in St. Louis.' This was one of the first moves toward the change. On February 26, 1875, a telegram signed 'Sylph' was sent from here to Babcock, saying, 'We have official information that the enemy weakens. Poor things.' This was Douglass's writing, and the enemy referred to were those persons who were favoring the change of supervisors. A couple of days later Douglass telegraphed Brooks: 'The order affecting your report to Tutton is suspended.' *Now, why did Douglass bend the supple hinges of the knee, and permit any interference by the President?* This was Douglass's own business, and he stood responsible for it under his official oath. *He was bound to listen to no dictation from the President, Babcock, or any other officer, and it was his duty to see that that order was carried out, or to resign.*"

There seems to have been no good reason for lugging the President into this harangue. There was nothing in the evidence to justify it, and the President is certainly not to blame for refusing to continue in office an attorney who has so little regard for propriety as HENDERSON has shown. He was doubtless a good prosecutor in these whisky cases, being familiar with the facts; but he has a very poor record as a public man, and the marvel is how he ever came to be employed in the first place. There is no reason to regret his prompt removal; although it was unfortunate for the Administration that it had to be done just at the particular moment when the BABCOCK case was coming up.

POLITICAL.

State.	Males.	Females.	Total.
November, 1875	2,795	2,196	4,991
November, 1874	4,311	1,944	6,255
Decrease	2,016	1,848	3,864

The following are the principal countries of last permanent residence or citizenship:

	Nov., 1875.	Nov., 1874.
England	886	1,634
Scotland	144	218
Wales	39	59
Ireland	604	1,209
Germany	1,956	3,366
Austria	188	452
Sweden, Norway and Denmark	130	293
France	238	397
Italy	227	175
Russia	229	670
Switzerland	67	99
Spain	25	37
Holland	51	73

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 10, 1875.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.

The agricultural report for November and December, says the November returns indicate that the corn crop of 1875 was one of the largest ever grown in this country, probably equalling the very large crops of 1870 and '72. It is at least a fourth greater than the crops of 1874, and a third greater than the crops of 1869, and every section of the Union reports some increase. The potato crop is extraordinary in both product and quality. The yield in districts reported is one-fourth greater than last year. In rainy sections the sweet potato crop suffered in yield and quality from excessive moisture. In the Gulf States and west of the Mississippi the yield largely exceeded that of last year, and the quality is about average. The cotton crop will pass the limit of four million bales. New England reports a good hay crop, but in other States the quality was much damaged by rains. The November returns indicate an increase in the tobacco yield of over seventy-five per cent., as compared with last year, when a partial failure was experienced. All the large tobacco States show a marked increase in production, especially Tennessee and Kentucky. The year has been mostly one of disaster to fruit-growers. The buckwheat crop equals that of last year. An extraordinary increase in the sorghum crop over last year is indicated in the Southern States and in the Mississippi Valley.

FIGURES FROM THE TREASURY.

The Treasurer now holds $366,317,412 in bonds to secure bank circulation, and $18,626,500 to secure public deposits. National bank circulation outstanding, $344,481,903, of which amount $2,127,750 is in gold notes. National bank notes received for redemption to-day, $556,853; total receipts for the week ending to-day, $3,682,290. Internal revenue receipts to-day, $263,343 42; for the month to date, $3,572,790 80; and for the fiscal year to date, $51,178,269 17. The customs receipt to-day were, $351,023 01; for the month to date, $3,118,927 35; and for the fiscal year to date, $71,165,572 34.

HALIFAX.

Vessel Wrecked at Grand Anse.

HALIFAX, December 11.—The "President," of the Magdalen Island fleet, was wrecked at Grand Anse. Five bodies of those lost have been recovered.

CROOKED WHISKY.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 9.—The trial of Jas. K. Hill, Deputy Revenue Collector of the First district, was commenced in the United States Court, to-day, before Judge Gresham. A motion made by the defendant's counsel to quash the indictment on an alleged defect in three separate counts of the written instrument, was overruled and a jury empaneled. Deputy District Prosecutor Holstein then made a detailed statement of the process of distilling spirits and the general arrangements of the distillery where these whisky irregularities have been carried on so long and successfully. The Prosecutor then set forth the history of the Indiana whisky conspiracy, which he observed was an outgrowth of the St. Louis ring and has been successfully organized since 1873. The defendant has been in the employ of the Government, in the capacity of Deputy Revenue Collector of the First district, and the charge against him is that of having been a conspirator with certain distillers who were defrauding the Government out of money. It will be shown in evidence, he says, that the defendant was a party to the whisky ring, and for his connection with and conniving at the proceedures of the organized clique received a monthly salary from them of $150; that he has given information in advanced of the approach of Government officers to these distillers, by which means counterfeiting was rendered in proper shape on the arrival of these officials. The prosecution further proposes to show that on one occasion Hill was sent by his superior, General Veach, to look after some irregularity at one of the distilleries included within the ring, but instead of making any inquiry the deputy merely went to the premises and, after loitering about awhile, returned to Evansville with the information that everything was correct. Hon. Wm. Fishback, attorney for the defendant was a party to the whisky ring, and for his connection with and conniving at the proceedures of the organized clique received a monthly salary from them of $150; that he has given information in advanced of the approach of Government officers to these distillers, by which means counterfeiting was rendered in proper shape on the arrival of these officials. The prosecution further proposes to show that on one occasion Hill was sent by his superior, General Veach, to look after some irregularity at one of the distilleries included within the ring, but instead of making any inquiry the deputy merely went to the premises and, after loitering about awhile, returned to Evansville with the information that everything was correct. Hon. Wm. Fishback, attorney for the defendant, will be found on the other side. W. P. Fishback, attorney for Mr. Hill, in stating the cause of his client to the jury, expressed his surprise at the sweeping assertions the counsel for the prosecution had made relative to the character and integrity of Mr. Hill, which he maintained perjured parties had conspired to break down and destroy. Mr. Fishback's remarks, possible stress upon the fact that the defendant was indicted solely on the evidence of parties who had pleaded guilty to defrauding the Government in this just done, and by so doing so they have virtually confessed themselves to be perjurers. Men that can lie continually for three years will not hesitate to swear falsely in this court, if thereby they can secure the conviction of an innocent party. The testimony of these perjured persons will amount to nothing in a court of justice, unless their evidence is corroborated by outside parties. Counsel said they proposed putting the District Prosecutor and his deputy upon the witness stand to testify as to the earnest and determined efforts of the defendant in working up these whisky cases and placing before the Grand Jury important information upon which the guilty parties were indicted.

Only two or three witnesses, out of about forty, for the prosecution were examined before the court adjourned.

THE BINGHAM BROTHERS

appeared in person in court this morning and, until the remaining parties who have pleaded guilty to defrauding the Government, are awaiting sentence from the Court, which will be passed after the Hill case is settled.

LOUIS B. BRASHER,

arrested at Cincinnati, charged with complicity in the Evansville frauds, was released to-day on $25,000 bail.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 10.—The trial of Deputy Collector Hill was continued in the United States Court to-day. The witnesses examined for the prosecution were Christopher Corconer, David M. Lewis, Gordon B. Bingham and Mr. Bowmus, all members of the whisky ring who have pleaded guilty and who will be sentenced after the trial of Hill is concluded. Lewis and Corconer testified to the fraudulent at the distilleries at Evansville and Patoka when "crooked" whisky was being made.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 13.—In the United States District Court the entire morning session was occupied in hearing the evidence of John W. Bingham, whose appearance on the witness stand was the signal for some interesting revelations regarding persons and matters directly connected with the Indiana whisky ring, of which he was the leading spirit and prime-mover. With reference to Mr. Hill, the witness observed that he had known him as a revenue officer for about two years and had told Lewis and others of his employees not to fear the defendant in the capacity of the Government official he was all right. Witness paid defendant regularly at the first of every month for not peaching on him, and his average assessment for keeping Government officials dumb was $2,000 per week. The bribes were given to Hill at Bingham's office, in Evansville. Mr. Bingham also related in detail the circumstances of Hill having given Simon T. Powell, Revenue Supervisor, a gold watch chain on the occasion of the latter's visiting Evansville. He said when he presented the chain he did it for a purpose, having Powell's character of Powell and that such a gift might benefit him someime. Mr. Bingham stated that Powell had received occasional letters from Hill in reference to whisky irregularities, but could not produce any of them. He also observed that about one-third of the whisky he manufactured was "crooked," and even then he lost so heavily as to necessitate the shutting down of the St. Louis distillery. Hiram Brownlee was given $500 by witness on the occasion of his attending the marriage of Henry Veatch, at Evansville. With reference to Chas. E. Marsh, agent of the Evansville and Crawfordsville road, the witness could not say whether he would accept the bribe for making false entries of whisky shipped, witness said Marsh did not hesitate thirty seconds.

General Veatch was then recalled and examined at considerable length.

Phillip Owens testified to the payment of a numberof barrels of whisky from Patoka with stamps, and when the matter was reported he said he could not make a case out of it.

With the latter witnesses the evidence for the prosecution closed, and evidence for the defense was commenced. General Veatch, James H. McNeely, former postmaster at Evansville, and several gentlemen from Evansville and Rockport were examined and testified to the good character of the defendant before his indictment.

ST. LOUIS, December 11.—District Attorney Dyer has appointed Colonel Jas. O. Broadhead, one of the leading lawyers of the St. Louis bar, to fill the position made vacant by the dismissal of General Henderson, and he has accepted and will proceed to the whisky ring prosecutions, in conjunction with District Attorney Dyer, Assistant Attorney Bliss and Lorn Eaton.

WHY MR. GLOVER DECLINED.

ST. LOUIS, December 12.—It is given out here that Mr. Glover declined to accept the position of special counsel in the whisky cases here, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of Gen. Henderson, because it would interfere too much with and injure his regular practice; but it is also said that he stated confidentially to a friend that he was not willing to accept under the restraints imposed by Judge Pierrepont's telegram removing Henderson; that he could not accept any employment to an indorsement of Grant's assumption to the right to remove any one engaged on the prosecution for the slightest criticism upon the conduct of the President or his Cabinet. In short, that he regarded an acceptance under the circumstances as a concession of certain privileges, which not only every attorney, but every man feels himself entitled to in this country.

BABCOCK'S BROTHER.

Col. Babcock, Surveyor General of Kansas, passed through here to-day, *en route* to Chicago to see his brother, General Babcock, in relation to the charges pending against him. Colonel Babcock expresses confidence in the entire innocence of his brother in any complicity in the whisky frauds.

FURBANK AND REYNOLDS CONVICTED AT MILWAUKEE.

MILWAUKEE, December 11.—At eleven o'clock to-night the jury in the Burbank and Reynolds case brought in a verdict of guilty.

HILL'S TRIAL AT INDIANAPOLIS.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 12.—The trial of Hill was continued yesterday in the United States Court. The prosecution introduced a number of witnesses whose testimony tended to connect Hill with the ring. H. B. Snyder testified that in 1874 John W. Bingham told him the ring was safe, as Babcock, the President's Secretary, was in it.

BABCOCK GIVES BAIL.

CHICAGO, December 11.—General Babcock, this morning, gave bail here for his appearance in St. Louis, in the sum of $7,000.

THE DEUTSCHLAND

ADDITIONAL LIST OF SAVED.

Seventy-Eight Persons Unaccounted For.

Pitiful Condition of Passengers on Monday.

Inquests at Sheerness and Harwich.

An Imputation of Negligence on the Part of the Government.

LONDON, December 9.—The first signals of distress sent up from the wrecked steamer Deutschland were seen by men of the English Coast Guard Service, at six o'clock Monday morning. Several Coast Guardmen turned out and commenced a search for volunteers to go with them in the tugboat Liverpool, of Harwick, and aid them in the attempt at rescue. All to whom they applied refused and now explain their conduct by saying they thought it was only a collier which was lost. Had they known that the distressed vessel had passengers on board they would have gone out. The sea was rough and Harwich is the only place on the line of the shore without a life-boat. A woman, crazed by despair, hung herself from the roof of the ship's cabin. One man committed suicide by cutting the veins of his wrist. A Swede, saved from the wreck of the steamship Schiller, was drowned. Many of the rescued are severely frostbitten, and some are not expected to recover. At daylight Tuesday morning the dead bodies of the five nuns were seen floating on the water.

ADDITIONAL LIST OF SAVED.

LONDON, December 9.—The following eleven additional names of passengers saved from the Deutschland, are furnished this morning: First cabin, Karl Diederick; second cabin, Procopi Kadolkoff, of Russia; steerage, Florian Bauerle, Bavaria; George Drettert or Freldirt, of Albany, N. Y.; Anna Hubner, of Reichenberg; Wilhelm Hurge, of Prussia; Mary Steornage, of England; E. Schusster, of New Kirchen; Anton Teichy, of New York; Georgiana Frank, of Bohemia, and Johann Gass, of Jachingen.

It is probable that some others are saved and not identified on account of the confusion of names in transcribing and telegraphing. A child of Anna Ganoelk died on the steamer after leaving the wreck. Altogether the loss of passengers and fifty of the crew are unaccounted for. The Deutschland will probably become a total wreck.

LONDON, December 10.—When the Deutschland left Bremen she had 101 adults, eleven children and two infants; of these fifty-six have been saved and fifty-eight are missing, together with a few of the crew. Mr. Meyers Breman, a merchant, was in Harwich, urging the fishing people of Harwich for not sending assistance. On Monday, he says, the sea was rough but not dangerous, and he thinks the life saving crew foolish in not having launched boats during the day, some of which were only swept away Tuesday night. The tug brought in yesterday six additional corpses, two girls and four male. One was identified as Grassman, a first cabin passenger. A lugger boarded the Deutschland yesterday and found other bodies. The following are the names of survivors: A Franciscan monk conveys the bodies of the four nuns to the monastery at Stratford, near London, for interment. Other bodies will be buried at Harwich. No arrangements have been yet reported for saving the cargo, and a fleet of fishing smacks are around the steamer carrying away everything portable. The scene of ruin and plunder is fearful. The captain was on deck at the time of the disaster.

LONDON, December 11, 6 A. M.—A telegram from Berlin states that all the members of the German Reichstag, on Thursday, have signed an interpellation, asking the Government for information in regard to the loss of the steamship Deutschland; in addition to this a motion has been made in the Reichstag for the introduction of a measure providing for official inquiries into such disasters in German ships.

LATEST DETAILS OF THE LOST.

LONDON, December 10.—With the latest information at hand regarding the loss of the steamship Deutschland, it is estimated that at least sixty-eight persons, of whom forty-six were passengers, were drowned.

The latest estimate makes the total number of lives lost on the Deutschland twenty-eight. It is now ascertained that the crew numbered ninety-nine, of whom fourteen were drowned. The Captain admits that he was an hour and a quarter out of his reckoning. The steamer Moselle takes the surviving passengers to New York.

INQUEST AT SHEERNESS.

A coroner's inquest has been held at Sheerness on the two bodies found in the quartermaster's boat. The jury refused to adjourn finally until the result of the official inquiry which is now being held at Harwich, in London, they have returned an open verdict of "death from exposure," thus leaving the Harwich inquest to fix the responsibility for the disaster.

In the inquest at Harwich, Capt. Bricken stein testified that he signalled passing vessels during Monday, but none answered. Lumen testified that he noticed the signals of distress were seen at Harwich. A juryman stated that the seamen did not feel bound to risk their lives and go to the rescue, having no lifeboat. The *Times* of this morning says the facts, if unexplained, cast a disgrace on the English Government.

THE INQUEST AT HARWICH

opened yesterday. The captain and other officers of the Deutschland were examined, but nothing new was elicited. The inquest was adjourned until Tuesday next. Six more dead bodies have been brought ashore at Harwich.

A dispatch from Sheerness says that the Deutschland has broken in two.

LONDON, December 11.—The *Herald* correspondent at Harwich telegraphs specially as follows: The bodies of Theodore Dandling and his child, who were lost in the wreck of the steamship Deutschland have been identified. Photographs of the corpses will be taken to-morrow. Consul Williams will supply copies. The funeral of the children will take place on Sunday, the 12th inst. The survivors of the disaster left London to-day for Southampton, with the intention of voyaging from that port to Germany and thence to America. Corrected lists show that forty-six passengers have been saved out of one hundred and sixteen, and that sixteen of the crew have been saved out of one hundred and three.

NEW YORK, December 12.—Private telegrams were received in the city yesterday from Consul Williams, at Harwich, stating that Babetta Rinderer and child and Margaret and Maria Messirer, of New York, were drowned. Their bodies were recovered and will be forwarded to New York. George Hoernel (name omitted in previous list) was saved.

NEW YORK, December 12.—The following private dispatch was received by Messrs. Ketchis & Co. on Friday afternoon, from Bremen, in reference to some of the Deutschland passengers:

Oelrichs & Co.:

Babett Rinder and child Margaret, and Maria Weisner all drowned. If the bodies are recovered the graves will be marked. George Hoernel, omitted from previous list, saved. WILLIAMS.

The above were steerage passengers. G. Moelk, of this city, received a dispatch yesterday from Bremen, through Messrs. Oelrichs & Co., that his wife, who was among the passengers saved, was well, but that his child had died while being conveyed from the steamer to Harwich on board the tug. These are all the additional information which had been received yesterday by the agents in New York in reference to the Deutschland. No reports had reached them confirming the dispatches received by the Associated Press yesterday morning saying that the Deutschland had gone to pieces.

HAVANA.

Newspaper Comments on Grant's Message.

HAVANA, December 11.—The *Vose De Cuba*, commenting on the portion of the President's message which relates to Cuba, says: "General Grant's language seems to have been chosen to wound the susceptibilities of the Spaniards. He seems to like playing with fire. He does not know the temperament of Spaniards, any more than Napoleon did."

The *Diario* censure the tone of the message, which was published while negotiations were pending between the United States and Spain. It praises faintly the President's refusal to acknowledge the Cuban insurgents as belligerents, and says the part of the message relating to Spain is studiously obscure. Finally, the *Diario*, at the conclusion of two columns and a half of criticism, says: "We believe General Grant has deceived the insurgents, and has wounded Spanish pride in his unfounded assertions. His entire message is contrary to the spirit of the American people, who eminently desire peace, and has satisfied no one."

POLITICAL.

Virginia.

NOMINATING UNITED STATES SENATOR.

RICHMOND, December 10.—A conference of the Conservative members of the Legislature was held to-day to nominate a United States Senator to succeed Senator Johnston. Five ballots were taken. First ballot—John W. Johnston, 32; John Goode, Jr., 31; Ex-Governor William Smith, 23; Ex-Governor John Letcher, 22; Thomas S. Flourney, 22. Subsequently the names of Flourney and Letcher were dropped, and the fifth ballot resulted as follows: Johnston, 61; Goode, 45; Stuart, 39. A. H. Stuart was then put in nomination. Sixth ballot—Johnston, 42; Goode, 45; Stuart, 47; Johnson dropped. Adjourned.

Commodore Vanderbilt has just made an additional donation of $100,000 to the Vanderbilt University at Nashville, which makes $700,000 in all.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Terrible Calamity at Bremerhaven.

BREMEN, December 11.—The North German Lloyds have received the following telegram:

BREMERHAVEN, December 11.—After the steamship Mosel had embarked her passengers for New York to-day, in the outer port a case of dynamite on the quay exploded, killing fifty persons and wounding many.

It has been ascertained that the explosion was of a case of dynamite belonging to the personal baggage of a passenger. But few details have yet been received, and no names of killed or wounded have been telegraphed. It is presumed, however, that the actual passengers suffered little, but that the fatalities were chiefly among those accompanying them.

BREMEN, December 11.—Later details of the dreadful calamity at Bremerhaven have just been received.

It is now supposed that the case of dynamite was being smuggled aboard by a passenger. Only two of the passengers by the Mosel were killed by the explosion.

The steamer itself, it now appears, suffered no particular damage on account of her great distance from the scene of the explosion.

LONDON, December 11.—The *Herald* correspondent at Bremen telegraphs the following: An explosion of a case of dynamite—known in America as "giant powder"—took place to-day at Bremerhaven. The case which contained this very dangerous substance was lying on the quay, in the midst of the luggage of the passengers, at the moment when the steamship Mosel hauled out of the dock preparatory to starting on her voyage from New York. From forty to fifty lives have been lost by the explosion. Many persons have received severe wounds. The killed and wounded were for the most part spectators who had assembled on the dock to see the vessel move off. The passengers on board the Mosel were wounded. One of them, Herr Etiner, of Bremen, has just died. Forty persons have already died from the injuries they received. Instead of the Mosel the steamship Salier will sail for New York next Tuesday, 14th inst.

LONDON, December 12.—A dispatch received from Bremerhaven to-night, states that sixty-eight persons were killed and thirty-five wounded by the explosion yesterday on the quay of the Mosel, and that eight are missing. A passenger on board the Mosel has since attempted to commit suicide, but was prevented. He will be examined to-morrow.

LONDON, December 13.—Four of the Mosel's passengers were killed, and six were wounded, among them Rudolf Witte, of New York. An official investigation shows that the total number of killed by the explosion is sixty, and of wounded forty.

NEW YORK, December 12.—Inquiries at the office of the company in this city, No. 2 Bowling Green, elicited the following facts: At 11 o'clock yesterday morning the steamship Mosel was towed out of her dock at Bremerhaven to-day, and the passengers were transferred to her. The steamship Salier, which will sail for New York to-morrow in place of the Mosel.

LONDON, December 13.—A report came from Bremen to-day that the passenger who attempted to commit suicide, and whose name is Thomas, had confessed that there was another case of explosive material on board the Mosel; that it was provided with a time fuse, which, if it was timed to explode in eight days, when the Mosel should be in midocean, and he intended to land at Southampton, his object being to destroy the steamer so that he could claim a large insurance which he had effected. But a later dispatch from Bremen pronounces the horrible story untrue. The case spoken of has been examined by the police and found to contain nothing explosive or dangerous.

MISSISSIPPI.

Particulars of the Fight at Rolling Fork—A Minister Leads the Whites to Battle.

CHICAGO, December 10.—The *Times* has a special from Vicksburg, mentioning a conflict at Rolling Fork, between a band of seventy-five whites, under the command of Colonel Ball, and a band of two hundred negroes commander by Noah Parker. It is reported that the colored commander, Capt. Arthur Shields and five other negroes were killed and a large number wounded. All is quiet now.

MEMPHIS, December 10.—A dispatch from Vicksburg to the Western Associated Press says: "A riot occurred at Rolling Fork, thirty-five miles above here, between whites and blacks, in which seven negroes, including the leader, were killed. No whites were hurt. A gentleman just arrived from there says all is quiet now and the negroes have fled to the woods in fright. The riot grew out of an attempt of the negroes to rescue one of their color who had been arrested on account of a difficulty with a white man."

MEMPHIS, December 11.—The following account of the origin of the riot at Rolling Fork, Issaquena county, Mississippi, is obtained from a gentleman just from there, who was present at the time:

On Saturday night, November 27, a party of negroes had assembled at the village, and were drinking and carousing. One of them pushed a youth whom he met in the street to one side, using rough language. After the same time the youth responded with a pocket knife, inflicting a scalp wound on the negro, and then fled to a sandbank, possibly lead to resumption, and at the proper time he would endeavor to explain it.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, said he would not discuss this measure now, but after the statement of the Senator from Missouri [Bogy] he [Morrill] deemed it proper to make a counter statement. He was present when the measure which the Senator proposed would be one of contraction. It would at once drive out of the country that little specie was now here. Then there was no use for specie it became a commodity, and would be exported. The passage of this bill would be a violation of the public faith, and he was sorry to see that this was the first proposition in regard to the finances brought into the Chamber. Should the bill be passed it would reduce the revenues at least twenty-five per cent. The vast salvation of the country depended upon a strict adherence to the pledges of the Government.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. MORTON submitted a resolution to amend the Twenty-fifth rule of the Senate so that bills may be twenty-five per cent. previous notice, and that it should not be necessary to state on the minutes that permission had been asked or obtained to introduce a bill without such notice. Mr. MORTON said it cost several hundred dollars ever session to print these formal words in the *Record*, and he saw no use in it. Referred.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9, 1875.

The standing committees were announced as follows:

Privileges and Elections—Morton (Chairman), Logan, Mitchell, Wadleigh, Cameron, of Wisconsin, McMillan, Saulsbury, Merrimon and Cooper.

Foreign Relations—Cameron, of Pennsylvania (Chairman), Morton, Hamlin, Howe, Frelinghuysen, Conkling, McCreery, Bogy and Eaton.

Finance—Sherman (Chairman), Morrill, of Vermont, Ferry, Frelinghuysen, Logan, Boutwell, Jones, of Nevada, Bayard and Kernan.

Appropriations — Morrill, of Maine (Chairman), Windom, West, Sargent, Allison, Dorsey, Davis, Withers and Wallace.

Commerce — Conkling (Chairman), Spencer, Boutwell, Cameron, of Wisconsin, Burnside, McMillan, Ransom, Dennis and McDorald.

Manufactures — Robertson (Chairman), Booth, Bruce, English and Wallace.

Agriculture—Frelinghuysen(Chairman), Robertson, Harvey, Davis and Jordan.

Military Affairs—Logan (Chairman), Cameron, of Pennsylvania, Spencer, Clayton, Wadleigh, Burnside, Gordon, Randolph and Cockrill.

Naval Affairs—Cragin (Chairman), Anthony, Morrill, of Maine, Sargent, Conover, Norwood and Whyte.

Judiciary — Edmunds (Chairman), Conkling, Frelinghuysen, Wright, Howe, Thurman and Stevenson.

Postoffices and Post Roads—Hamlin (Chairman), Ferry, Dorsey, Jones, of Nevada, Dawes, Paddock, Saulsbury, Maxey and Key.

Public Lands—Oglesby (Chairman), Windom, Harvey, Hamilton, Paddock, Booth, Kelly, McDonald and Jones, of Florida.

Private Land Claims—Thurman (Chairman), Bayard, Bogy, Edmunds and Christiancy.

Indian Affairs—Allison (Chairman), Oglesby, Morrill, of Maine, Ingalls, Clayton, Bogy and McCreery.

Pensions—Ingalls (Chairman), Allison, Hamilton, Booth, Bruce, McDonald and Withers.

Revolutionary Claims—Stevenson(Chairman), Johnson, Goldthwaite, Morrill, of Vermont, and Wright.

Claims—Wright (Chairman), Mitchell, Wadleigh, Christiancy, McMillan, Cameron, of Wisconsin, Caperton, Cockrill and Jones, of Florida.

District of Columbia—Spencer (Chairman), Hitchcock, Dorsey, Ingalls, Robertson, Merriman and English.

Patents—Wadleigh (Chairman), Windom, Dawes, Johnson and Kernan.

Public Buildings and Grounds—Morrill, of Vermont (Chairman), Cameron, of Pennsylvania, Paddock, Cooper and Whyte.

Territories—Hitchcock (Chairman), Cragin, Patterson, Christiancy, Sharon, Cooper and Maxey.

Railroads—West (Chairman), Hitchcock, Cragin, Howe, Hamilton, Mitchell, Dawes, Ransom, Kelly, Caperton and Eaton.

Mines and Mining—Sargent (Chairman), Hamlin, Alcorn, Harvey, Sharon, Goldthwaite and Randolph.

Revision of Laws of United States—Boutwell (Chairman), Alcorn, Christiancy, Caperton and Wallace.

Education and Labor—Patterson (Chairman), Morton, Morrill, of Vermont, Burnside, Bruce, Sharon, Gordon, Maxey and Key.

Civil Service and Retrenchment—Clayton (Chairman), Wright, Oglesby, Alcorn, Patterson, McCreery and Randolph.

To Audit and Control Contingent Expenses of Senate—Jones, of Nevada (Chairman), Dawes and Dennis.

Printing—Anthony (Chairman), Sherman and Saulsbury.

Library—Howe (Chairman), Edmunds and Ransom.

Rules—Ferry (Chairman), Hamlin and Merrimon.

Enrolled Bills—Bayard (Chairman), Withers and Anthony.

Enrolled Bills—Conover (Chairman), Robertson and Kelly.

Levees on the Mississippi River—Alcorn (Chairman), Clayton, Harvey, Cooper and Cockrill.

To Examine the Several Branches of the Civil Service—Boutwell (Chairman), Conkling, Allison, Merrimon and Eaton.

Transportation Routes to the Seaboard—Windom, (Chairman), Sherman, West, Conover, Mitchell, Burnside, Norwood, Davis and Johnston.

MR. BAYARD said that on behalf of the minority of the Senate he desired to express regret that upon the Committee on Finance, numbering nine members, they had not been allowed the same proportion which the sense of justice on the part of the majority had given the minority on the other committees. At this time, considering the importance of the duties of that committee, the number of the minority on it, and their share of responsibility in molding legislation in regard to the finances, the ratio deemed by the majority and minority as just one upon the other committees, should prevail upon this committee. He had understood, however, that two members of the Finance Committee, the Senator from Illinois (Logan) and the Senator from Nevada (Jones) would be here soon, and upon their arrival it was proposed to consider the subject of allowing the minority a greater representation. It is hoped the proposition would be carried out.

It was ordered that the bills and memorials presented yesterday be taken from the table and referred to the appropriate committees.

Mr. INGALLS presented the petition of the widow of A. J. Smith, late Assistant United States Surveyor, asking an appropriation of ten thousand dollars compensation for the loss of her husband, who was killed by Indians while surveying lands in Kansas.

Mr. MAXEY presented the memorial of the Texas Constitutional Convention in relation to depredations on the property of the Texas frontier by bands of marauders, organized beyond the limits of the State. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. COOPER presented the memorial of book agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, asking to be compensated for the loss of property at Richmond, Va., and Louisville, Ky., during the war. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

It was ordered that when the Senate adjourned to-day it be to meet on Monday next.

Mr. WEST presented a letter from W. L. McMillan, of Louisiana, asking permission to withdraw his credentials as Senator elect from the State of Louisiana by the McEnery Legislature. He submitted an order that the request for the withdrawal of papers be granted, but objection was made by Senator Blanche of the Democratic side and it was laid over.

Mr. CONKLING introduced a bill to amend the act creating a tribunal to adjudicate the claims referred to the Judiciary Committee. It repeals so much of the twelfth section of the act as excludes insurance companies, and allows them to participate in the award. It also extends the time of the court for a period sufficient to enable it to hear and dispose of such additional claims, such petitions to be presented near from the expiration of the time for filing claims under this act.

Mr. SHERMAN introduced a bill to extend the duration of the court of claims, and to confer jurisdiction upon it to hear and determine all claims arising out of the Geneva award. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. INGALLS introduced a bill to amend the act of July 2, 1864, to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean. It provides that the failure or omission on the part of either of the railroad companies to pay the costs of surveying lands to which they are entitled under Congressional grants, or to take patents for them, shall not exempt such lands from local taxation, but they shall be subject to taxation by States and Territories, upon the evidence of lists, which it is hereby made the duty of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to prepare and furnish to the Governor of any State or Territory who may apply for the same, showing what lands pertain to the respective railroad grants in their respective State or Territorial limits.

Mr. BOGY introduced a bill authorizing the payment of duties on imports in legal-tenders and national bank notes. It provides that on and after July 4, 1876, duties on imports may be paid in legal-tenders and national bank notes or coin, at the option of the importer.

Mr. BOGY said it was not his intention at this time to discuss the merits of the bill, but he looked upon it as a measure tending to specie resumption, and in his opinion it was the only way the country would ever attain resumption. He offered the bill so as to prepare the way for this operation. The only way to the resumption of specie payment was by appreciating the paper now in circulation. He was not in favor of any increase of paper currency, but he wished to appreciate that paper. As long as the country had the system of national banks, whether it was a wise one or not, it seemed to him that it was the duty of Congress to give that paper as much value as possible. He desired the amount of legal-tenders now in circulation to remain as at present. He looked upon any contraction of the currency as ruinous to the country. He thought the bill submitted by him could be explained as the only measure which

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, said he would not discuss this measure now, but after the statement of the Senator from Missouri [Bogy] he [Morrill] deemed it proper to make a counter statement. He was present when the measure which the Senator proposed would be one of contraction. It would at once drive out of the country that little specie was now here. Then there was no use for specie it became a commodity, and would be exported. The passage of this bill would be a violation of the public faith, and he was sorry to see that this was the first proposition in regard to the finances brought into the Chamber. Should the bill be passed it would reduce the revenues at least twenty-five per cent. The vast salvation of the country depended upon a strict adherence to the pledges of the Government.

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After an executive session the Senate adjourned